

NC Department of Commerce
Workforce Monthly Activity
September 2012

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		Current Month SEP 12	LABOR MARKET INFORMATION	Prior Month ¹ AUG 12
Dempsey Benton <i>Assistant Secretary</i>		7.8%	U. S. Unemployment Rate	8.1%
Stephanie McGarrah <i>Assistant Secretary</i>		9.6%	North Carolina Unemployment Rate	9.7%
		4,673,768	Size of North Carolina Civilian Labor Force	4,648,112
		4,225,436	Number of workers employed in North Carolina	4,196,204
Roger J. Shackleford <i>Assistant Secretary</i>		448,332	Number of workers unemployed in North Carolina	451,908
		3,953,000	Estimated Nonfarm Employment in North Carolina	3,952,900
		SEP 12	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) ACTIVITY ²	AUG 12
		594,199	Individuals receiving one or more UI payments – 2011 (All programs)	594,199
		95,998	Individuals receiving UI benefits – Sep. 2012	100,861
		343,805	Weeks of UI paid in Sep. 2012	342,357
		\$1.4 Billion	Amount paid in UI – 2011	\$1.4 Billion
		\$100.4 Million	Amount paid in UI – Sep. 2012 ³	\$99.0 Million
		\$54.7 Million	Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EUC Tier I – Sep. 2012 ⁴	\$51.2 Million
		\$28.0 Million	Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EUC Tier II – Sep. 2012 ⁴	\$25.6 Million
		\$20.5 Million	Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EUC Tier III – Sep. 2012 ⁴	\$18.0 Million
		\$10.1 Million	Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EUC Tier IV – Sep. 2012 ⁴	\$10.8 Million
		\$6,370	Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EB – Sep. 2012 ⁵	\$21,739
		\$0	Amount NC paid in Extended Benefits – EB – Sep. 2012 ⁵	\$0
		\$280.19	Average Weekly UI Benefit Amount – 2011	\$280.19
		\$292.05	Average Weekly UI Benefit Amount – Sep. 2012	\$289.04
		\$46 / \$535	Minimum/Maximum amount of UI benefits (per week) – Sep. 2012	\$46 / \$535
		16.3 Weeks	Average Duration (Jul. 2011 – Jun. 2012)	16.3 Weeks
		25 th (Lowest)	Duration Ranking (Jul. 2011 – Jun. 2012)	25 th (Lowest)
		\$1.5 Billion	Total collected in UI Taxes in 12-month period ending Sep. 2012	\$1.5 Billion
		\$1.3 Billion	Total paid in UI Benefits in 12-month period ending Sep. 2012	\$1.3 Billion
		-\$2.5 Billion	Trust Fund Balance – Sep. 30, 2012	-\$2.4 Billion
		\$2.5 Billion	Federal Loan Balance – Sep. 30, 2012	\$2.4 Billion
		\$33.0 Million	State Reserve Balance – Sep. 30, 2012	\$119.9 Million
		SEP 12	EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITY	AUG 12
		31,369	New & Renewed Jobseekers – Sep. 2012	38,769
		363,259	New & Renewed Jobseekers for PY (Jul. 2011 – Jun. 2012)	363,259
		105,933	New & Renewed Jobseekers - Y-T-D (Jul. 2012 - Sep. 2012)	75,707
		55,266	Jobseekers provided service – Sep. 2012 ⁶	65,539
		38,336	Jobseekers referred to jobs – Sep. 2012 ⁶	45,876
		147,549	Total Services provided – Sep. 2012	178,446
		17,220	Job Openings listed – Sep. 2012	21,015
		202,588	Job Openings listed for PY (Jul. 2011 – Jun. 2012)	202,588
		58,139	Job Openings listed - Y-T-D (Jul. 2012 - Sep. 2012)	40,919
		1,010	Claimants entering employment through ES ⁷ – Sep. 2012	1,207
		3,081	Claimants entering employment through ES ⁷ - Y-T-D (Jul. 2012 – Sep. 2012)	2,096
		6,097	Jobseekers entering employment through ES – Sep. 2012	7,842
		19,568	Jobseekers entering employment through ES - Y-T-D (Jul. 2012 – Sep. 2012)	13,992

¹ Data in this column represent prior month, prior quarter or prior year data; i.e., prior year equals 2011 data.

² Regular UI benefits unless otherwise noted.

³ Includes benefits paid according to the federal ETA 5159 Claims and Payment Activities Report.

⁴ Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) provides up to 53 weeks of 100% federally funded compensation.

⁵ Extended Benefits program (EB) provides 80% or up to a maximum of 20 weeks of extended unemployment insurance benefits.

⁶ Totals for *Jobseekers provided service* and *Jobseekers referred to jobs* represent the number of customers who, during the report month, received a reportable service or were referred to employment for the first time since the beginning of the Program Year (July 1, 2012).

⁷ Individuals who filed a claim for unemployment benefits through a local office.

Highlights

The Department of Commerce, Division of Employment Security (DES) processed a total of 422,511 Weeks claimed for Unemployment Insurance in September 2012, up 2.0 percent from August (414,191) and down 0.8 percent from September a year ago (426,086).

September's statewide Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) at 2.8 percent rose above the 2.4 percent of August 2012 and the 2.6 percent of September a year ago.

There were 42,362 state UI Initial Claims (excluding Interstate Liable, UCX and UCFE) filed in September 2012, down 17.7 percent from the prior month's total of 51,446. Compared with September 2011 (55,083), Initial Claims' volume decreased 23.1 percent.

During the second quarter 2012, North Carolina's average duration of Weeks claimed for Unemployment Insurance benefits decreased from 16.4 weeks to 16.3 weeks, equal to Texas. The national average decreased from 17.4 weeks to 17.3 weeks during this time period. During the same quarter, states with lower duration weeks were: North Dakota, 11.7 weeks; Georgia, 13.4 weeks; Iowa, 13.9 weeks; Idaho, Indiana and South Carolina, 14.0 weeks; Nebraska, 14.1 weeks; Utah, 14.2 weeks; Vermont, 14.4 weeks; South Dakota, 14.6 weeks; New Hampshire, 14.7 weeks; Alabama, 14.9 weeks; Wyoming, 15.1 weeks; Arkansas and West Virginia, 15.3 weeks; Tennessee, 15.6 weeks; Colorado, Kansas, Michigan and Minnesota, 15.7 weeks; Maine, Missouri, and Virginia, 15.8 weeks; and Rhode Island, 16.1 weeks.

During September 2012, 3 counties reported a decrease in the IUR and 97 reported an increase. When comparing current rates to September 2011, 25 counties reported a decrease in the IUR while 74 reported an increase and 1 remained unchanged. Counties with the lowest rates in September 2012 were: Dare, 1.10 percent; Orange, 1.11 percent; Watauga, 1.21 percent; Durham, 1.54 percent and Swain, 1.56 percent. Counties with the highest rates in September 2012 were: Hoke, 7.41 percent; Caswell, 7.35 percent; Stokes, 6.67 percent; Perquimans, 6.63 percent and Graham, 6.50 percent.

The Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund balance was at a deficit of \$2,454,821,495 on September 30, 2012. Since Jan. 1, 2012, the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund improved \$211,268,154. During September, DES collected \$5,434,050 in Unemployment Insurance taxes assessed to employers. The Federal Loan had a balance of \$2,459,208,585, and the State Reserve Fund had a balance of \$32,976,315.

As of September 30, 2012, there were 196,534 covered employers in the state compared to 196,962 at the end of the prior quarter, and 194,542 at the end of June a year ago.

Claimants in September 2012 were paid \$100,409,334 in unemployment benefits. The weekly average payment per claimant without earnings was \$302.11, an increase of 0.6 percent from the prior month (\$300.30). This average increased 3.3 percent from September 2011 (\$292.32). Claimants receiving first payments in September totaled 18,065, a 12.4 percent decrease from August (20,625) and 14.1 percent from the September 2011 level (21,036). Claimants exhausting benefit rights numbered 11,881, for an increase of 3.1 percent from August's volume (11,529) and down 2.8 percent from the September 2011 volume (12,227).

There were 31,369 new and renewed jobseekers in September 2012, down 19.1 percent from the prior month's total of 38,769 and 12.5 percent from the September 2011 level (35,840). Jobseekers provided services through local offices in September numbered 55,266, a 15.7 percent decrease from August (65,539) and down 11.6 percent from the September 2011 level (62,547). Jobseekers referred to jobs by local offices in September totaled 38,336, a 16.4 percent decrease from the prior month (45,876) and an 11.5 percent decrease from September 2011 level (43,333). Total services provided via local offices in September was 147,549, fell 17.3 percent from August (178,446) and 2.7 percent from September a year ago (151,613).

Job Openings listed with local offices in September 2012 totaled 17,220, an 18.1 percent decrease from the prior month (21,015) and 15.3 percent from September 2011 (20,336).

In September 2012, there were 1,010 claimants who filed for unemployment benefits through a local office and subsequently entered employment — a 16.3 percent decrease from the prior month (1,207) and a 3.7 percent increase from the September 2011 volume (974). In September 2012, there were 6,097 jobseekers that entered employment as a result of services obtained through a local office — 22.3 percent less than August (7,842) and 21.4 percent less than September a year ago (7,754).